



State of Louisiana **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
Office of the Governor February 10, 2014
GOVERNOR BOBBY JINDAL Press Office: Kyle Plotkin
Contact: 225-342-8006, (c) 225-328-3755

Governor Bobby Jindal Declares a State of Emergency in Advance of Severe Winter Weather

BATON ROUGE – In advance of severe winter weather in Northern Louisiana, Governor Bobby Jindal has issued a statewide emergency declaration today to assist in the deployment and staging of state assets to support northern parishes in responding to the emergency.

STATE OF EMERGENCY – WINTER WEATHER:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, et seq., confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake, or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers the Governor to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service predicts another very strong cold front and wintry mix, bringing a band of snow, sleet, and freezing rain which is impacting Midwestern and Southern states and will impact this State over the next several days, potentially resulting in accumulations of ice on roadways and hazardous winter weather conditions throughout the northern portion of the State;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has issued a winter weather advisory and freeze warnings for Northern parishes over the next forty-eight hours making driving conditions hazardous;

WHEREAS, currently schools have been closed in numerous Northern parishes due to the hazards posed by this extreme winter weather, and these winter weather conditions threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State of Louisiana;

NOW THEREFORE I, BOBBY JINDAL, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, et seq., a state of emergency is declared to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the extreme cold weather conditions that threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State.

SECTION 2: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which he deems necessary and appropriate in response to this declaration.

SECTION 3: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this severe cold weather.

SECTION 4: This state of emergency extends from Monday, February 10, 2014 to Tuesday, March 11, 2014 unless terminated sooner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 10th day of February, 2014.

/s/ Bobby Jindal

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY

THE GOVERNOR

/s/ Tom Schedler

SECRETARY OF STATE